

ER 11-2504/a

4 APR 1959

STATINTL

JMC/L

card
Honorable Wayne M. Aspinall
Chairman
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

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Dear Mr. Aspinall:

In the absence of Mr. Dulles, I wish to thank you for your letter of 23 March 1959 requesting our comments on H. R. 5222, the proposed "Richard E. Byrd Antarctica Commission Act of 1959."

As we have indicated with respect to similar bills introduced in previous Congresses, the polar regions are of great interest to the intelligence community, and considerable attention has been given by the Administration to the problem of how the United States Government should conduct its activities in these areas, particularly Antarctica. However, since this bill involves issues which are not directly within the purview of this Agency, we are not in a position to comment specifically on it.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that it has no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

C. F. Cabell
General, USAF
Acting Director

25X1

OGC/LC:GLC:mks(3/25/59)
Retyped: O/DDCI for A/DDCI signature (4/3/59)
Distribution:

- Orig & 1 - Addressee
- 4 - Bureau of the Budget (3/26/59)
- ✓ 1 - A/DDCI
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- 1 - SO
- 1 - Legis. Counsel (w/background)
- 1 - WH
- 1 - ORR
- 1 - Comptroller (3/26/59)

CONFIDENTIAL
Congressional

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Cabell

SUBJECT : Summary of H. R. 5222

Congressman Zablocki has introduced H. R. 5222, an act to be known as the "Richard E. Byrd Antarctic Commission Act of 1959". This proposed bill provides for the:

- (1) support of study, research, and development of programs for peaceful uses in science, commerce, and other activities related to Antarctica, which shall include, but shall not be limited to, gathering, evaluating, correlating, and dispersing of information and knowledge obtained from exploration, research, and other mediums relating to weather, communications, travel, and other areas of information;
- (2) coordination of Antarctic activities among those agencies of the United States Government and private institutions interested in or concerned directly with the promotion, advancement, increase, and diffusion of knowledge of the Antarctic; and
- (3) direction and administration of United States Antarctic programs in the national interest.

The Commission shall consist of a Director, two Deputy Directors and a Board of Governors. It is to be pointed out that the bill provides that the Commission may accept and utilize the employees, services and information of any agency of the United States.


AAB

3 April 59

Executive Registry

11-2504/a

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Chairman
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs
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As we have indicated with respect to similar bills introduced in previous Congresses, the polar regions are of great interest to the intelligence community, and considerable attention has been given by the Administration to the problem of how the United States Government should conduct its activities in these areas, particularly in Antarctica. However, since this bill involves issues which are not directly within the purview of this Agency, we are not in a position to comment specifically on it.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that it has no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely,

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Addressee	Allen W. Dulles
4 - Bureau of the Budget 3/26/59	Director
✓ 1 - DCI	
1 - DDCI	1 - WH
1 - ER	1 - ORR
1 - SO	1 - Comptroller 3/26/59
1 - Legislative Counsel w/background	

OGC/LC:GLC:cmj:mks (25 Mar 59)

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DIRECTOR

Attached for your signature is a reply to a request for our comments on a bill to establish a "Richard E. Byrd Antarctica Commission." Our comments have been requested on similar measures in past years and our responses have been along the same lines as the attached letter. Bureau of the Budget clearance has been obtained. /-

LAWRENCE E. HOUSTON
General Counsel

1 April 1959
(DATE)

STATINTL

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)